NextLeap - The AI Career Architect

Document ID: LKP-WP-FINAL-002
Document Version: 2.0 (Hybrid AI Model)
Status: Approved for Development
Date: 22-08-2025

0.0 Project Identification (Smart India Hackathon 2025)

- **Problem Statement ID:**
  SIH25094

- **Problem Statement Title:**
  One-Stop Personalized Career & Education Advisor

- **Organization:**
  Government of Jammu and Kashmir

- **Category:**
  Software

- **Theme:**
  Smart Education

- **Team Name:**
  Coding Crusaders

- **Team ID:**
  [Team ID]

1.0 Executive Summary

Project NextLeap is a revolutionary AI-powered guidance platform designed to function as a **Personalized AI Career Architect** for every student in India. It is the direct and innovative solution for **Problem Statement SIH25094**. Our platform's core innovation is a unique **Hybrid Guidance System** that combines a **Dynamic Conversational AI** with a crucial **Emotional Checkpoint**. First, the AI engages the user in a chat-like dialogue to understand their logical profile. Then, it presents its logical recommendation and uses a **"Happiness Slider"** to measure the user's emotional resonance with that path. Based on this emotional feedback, the AI **adapts its final recommendation**, ensuring the resulting roadmap aligns with both the student's head and their heart. This document outlines the complete blueprint for the NextLeap MVP.

2.0 The Problem Landscape & The Opportunity Gap

Traditional career tests fail because they are one-dimensional.

- **They are Static & Impersonal:** They use pre-defined questionnaires that cannot adapt to the individual.
- **They Ignore Emotion:** They focus only on aptitude and logic, completely ignoring the most critical factor for long-term success: **passion and emotional connection**. A student might be good at something, but they won't excel if they don't love it.

- **They Lack a Feedback Loop:** They provide a final, take-it-or-leave-it report with no mechanism for the user to express their true feelings about the suggestion.

3.0 The Vision & Solution: Introducing NextLeap

Our philosophy is that the perfect career path is a balance between logic and emotion. We are building an AI that is not just "intelligent," but **"wise."** It first uses its **"brain" (the conversational AI)** to find a logical path, and then it uses its **"heart" (the Happiness Slider)** to check if that path feels right to the user.

NextLeap is unique because of its three integrated layers:

1. **The Conversational AI:** To understand the user's *logic* and aptitude.
2. **The Emotional Checkpoint (Happiness Slider):** To understand the user's *passion* and excitement.
3. **The AI's Adaptive Reaction:** The AI's ability to **change its recommendation** based on the user's emotional feedback. This makes our system truly personal and empathetic.

4.0 The User Journey: A Walkthrough of the Hybrid Experience
1. **The Dialogue (The "Brain"):** The user engages in a 3-4 step dynamic, mouse-interactive conversation with the AI to determine their logical profile (e.g., `Analytical`).
2. **The Logical Recommendation:** The AI presents its initial finding: "Based on our chat, **Engineering** seems like a very logical path for you."
3. **The Emotional Checkpoint (The "Heart"):** The AI then asks, "But how excited does this path make you feel?" and presents the **Happiness Slider**.
4. **The Adaptive Reaction:**
   - **High Score (4-5):** The AI validates the choice ("Great! Your head and heart agree!") and proceeds to the roadmap.
   - **Low Score (1-2):** The AI acknowledges the feedback ("Thank you for being honest.") and **proposes a logical alternative** that might be a better emotional fit (e.g., "Let's explore a more creative analytical field, like Data Science.").
5. **The Final Blueprint:** The user is then presented with the final, emotionally-aligned roadmap.

5.0 Technical Architecture

The architecture remains a decoupled frontend-backend system. The "Happiness Slider" input is simply an additional data point sent from the frontend to the backend.
`[Streamlit Frontend] <--> [FastAPI Backend API] <--> [Google Gemini LLM API]`

- **Frontend:** Streamlit
- **Backend:** FastAPI (Python)
- **AI Model:** Google Gemini API

The `/conversation` API endpoint will be enhanced. The backend will now also return a `recommendation_type` (`logical_recommendation` or `final_roadmap`) to tell the frontend whether to show the Happiness Slider or the final roadmap. The frontend will send the slider's score back to the backend for the final step.

6.0 The AI & Data Strategy

The Master Prompt will be updated. The AI will now be instructed to first provide a logical recommendation, and then, based on the user's happiness score, either confirm it or generate a logical alternative.

The CSV files (`careers.csv`, `colleges.csv`) remain our fact-checked knowledge base for generating the final roadmap.

7.0 The SIH MVP: Scope & Deliverables
- A fully functional prototype demonstrating the end-to-end **Hybrid Journey** for the "After 10th" user.
- A live, working integration with the Gemini API for the initial conversation.
- A functional **Happiness Slider** that visibly influences the AI's final recommendation in the demo.
- Generation of a final, personalized roadmap.
- User accounts, other user journeys ("After 12th," etc.).
1. **Functionality:** The demo flawlessly showcases the entire flow: Conversation -> Logical Recommendation -> Happiness Slider -> Adaptive Final Roadmap.
2. **Innovation:** The judges clearly understand that the **combination of conversational AI and the adaptive emotional checkpoint** is a unique and powerful innovation.
3. **User Experience:** The process feels empathetic, intelligent, and gives the user ultimate control.

8.0 Scalability & Future Roadmap

The Hybrid System is fully scalable. The core logic is universal, and the data (colleges, careers) and language are pluggable for any state in India.

- **Phase 1 (Beta Launch):** Refine the AI's ability to suggest a wider range of "alternative" career paths based on different combinations of logical profiles and emotional scores.
- **Phase 2 (Full-Scale Product):** Introduce a "NextLeap Pro" feature where a low happiness score could unlock an option to have a video call with a certified human career counselor, who would already have the AI's report as a starting point.

9.0 Team Roles & Responsibilities
- **Team Lead / Product Owner:** Oversees the project vision and ensures the Hybrid System's logic is sound.
- **Lead Developer (Full Stack):** Implements the complete front-to-back logic, including the Happiness Slider's influence on the state.
- **AI/Prompt Engineer:** Designs the advanced prompts that instruct the AI on how to react to different happiness scores.
- **UI/UX & Research Specialist:** Designs the intuitive UI for the Happiness Slider and ensures the final roadmap visually reflects the user's journey.